

**To:** Lee, Monica[[Lee.Monica@epa.gov](mailto:Lee.Monica@epa.gov)]  
**From:** Valentine, Julia  
**Sent:** Tue 8/11/2015 5:04:05 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: AP Inquiry about Superfund/Gold King

Aargh!

You're going to have to send that process to George and make sure it happens

Sent from USEPA iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Daguillard, Robert" <[Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov](mailto:Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov)>  
**Date:** August 11, 2015 at 12:57:02 PM EDT  
**To:** "Harrison, Melissa" <[Harrison.Melissa@epa.gov](mailto:Harrison.Melissa@epa.gov)>, "StClair, Christie" <[StClair.Christie@epa.gov](mailto:StClair.Christie@epa.gov)>, "Mylott, Richard" <[Mylott.Richard@epa.gov](mailto:Mylott.Richard@epa.gov)>, "Gray, David" <[gray.david@epa.gov](mailto:gray.david@epa.gov)>, "Zito, Kelly" <[ZITO.KELLY@EPA.GOV](mailto:ZITO.KELLY@EPA.GOV)>  
**Cc:** "Smith, Paula" <[Smith.Paula@epa.gov](mailto:Smith.Paula@epa.gov)>, "Hull, George" <[Hull.George@epa.gov](mailto:Hull.George@epa.gov)>, "Purchia, Liz" <[Purchia.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Purchia.Liz@epa.gov)>, "Lehman, Rachel" <[Lehman.Rachel@epa.gov](mailto:Lehman.Rachel@epa.gov)>, "Valentine, Julia" <[Valentine.Julia@epa.gov](mailto:Valentine.Julia@epa.gov)>, "Allen, Laura" <[Allen.Laura@epa.gov](mailto:Allen.Laura@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** AP Inquiry about Superfund/Gold King

FYI. Looks as though the first part of the inquiry should go to OSWER. I'll ask Julia to work with them on those questions unless I hear otherwise from you, Melissa.

I have a similar inquiry from the Guardian, dated yesterday. I propose OSWER handle the national questions – and that we refer the reporters to the daily media calls for specific questions about Gold King.

Please advise.

**From:** Valentine, Julia  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 11, 2015 11:35 AM  
**To:** Brown, Matthew; Daguillard, Robert  
**Cc:** Mylott, Richard; Knickmeyer, Ellen  
**Subject:** RE: Press Inquiry about Superfund

Hi Matt,

Nice to see your name in my inbox again. Hope all is well with you.

My colleague Robert Daguillard, copied here, will get you where you need to be on this issue.

Julia P. Valentine

Office of Public Affairs

U.S. EPA

202.564.2663 direct

202.740.1336 m/txt

**From:** Brown, Matthew [<mailto:MBrown@ap.org>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 11, 2015 10:57 AM

**To:** Valentine, Julia

**Cc:** Mylott, Richard; Knickmeyer, Ellen

**Subject:** Press Inquiry about Superfund

Hi Julia-I'm working on a story for today about Colorado mine spill, hoping to tap into your expertise for background on mines in the Superfund program.

Realize the mine in spill was not in the program, but we want to explore how local opposition helped keep it out of the program, and explain how Superfund works and what benefits it offers.

Here are the main things we're looking for:

--how many mines are currently on the National Priorities List? Can we get a list of those or is there a way to search on the Superfund website?

--does the EPA have any estimate on total number of abandoned mines? (in the western US and/or nationwide, or whatever is available)

--is there a gauge of how often resistance to a Superfund designation by local officials has prevented a site's listing?

Specific to Gold King Mine:

-was a preliminary assessment ever completed on the Gold King Mine or for a group of mines including Gold King?

--it's my understanding that the EPA has said a water treatment plant estimated to cost \$12-\$17m (and \$1M a year to operate) would be able to clean the water in the Animas. Is that correct? And if so, is it the type of expense that Superfund would cover?

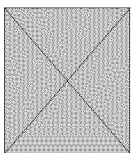
CC'd Rich Mylott and Ellen Knickmeyer with The AP and also left you a voice mail. Please give me a call when you can.

Hoping to get whatever answers we can as quickly as possible b'c story is already live and the plan is to make this our main focus today.

Thanks much-

Matt Brown

406 696 4213



**Matthew Brown**

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